

AN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE
ENROLLMENTS IN KANSAS 1950-1956

by

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INTRODUCTION

All forms of education from the elementary school through the graduate departments of the universities have experienced great expansions since the year 1900. Moreover, the enrollment in high schools in relation to the population age level has constantly increased. It is estimated that from 1880 to 1950 the number of students enrolled in high schools of the United States has increased fifty-fold while the population has increased by threefold.¹

In addition, the developing economy of the United States has placed steadily greater and greater emphasis upon the importance of education beyond that given in high school. As the demand for college-trained personnel grows, there is an increasing number of young people who complete high school and desire to attend colleges and universities.

Peter F. Drucker stated in the July, 1956, issue of Harper's Magazine that "College education is rapidly becoming 'general education.' But in its economic foundation, it is predominantly 'class' education for a small group of the wealthy or exceptionally able."²

However, our educational system is built on a broad and democratic concept of education for the masses. Educators, parents, and young people have combined their efforts to see

¹ Educational Policies Commission, Education for All American Youth, A Further Look, Washington: National Education Association, 1952.

² As given, "Will Colleges Blow Their Top?", p. 63.

that opportunities are provided so that all who are willing and able may receive college education. The public junior college has been established to provide youth with the opportunity to get a college education regardless of economic status, regardless of place of birth, regardless of occupational interests.

The purposes and functions of the junior college are:

- "(1) Extension of education to meet added requirements of life and work, called the terminal function.
- (2) Preparation for further college study, called the transfer function.
- (3) Continuing education, or opportunity for part-time education as the need and interest arise, commonly known as adult education."¹

An interrelated function of these three groups is the vital process of giving guidance to the three groups of students attending the public junior college so that each may achieve their life goals. "Effective guidance underlies and permeates all the other functions."²

As a phenomenon of this century, the junior college is not limited by tradition. Its size and location enable it to offer a curriculum enriched by guidance geared to the need and personality of the community and students. As indicated by the purposes and functions, the junior college offers education

¹Jesse P. Bogue, American Junior Colleges, 1956, p. 3.

²Walter Crosby Bells, The Junior College, P. 315.

beyond high school for those interested in vocational training, for those interested in college training, and for those adults who may profit by certain course offerings.

The extent to which junior colleges are serving their purposes and functions can be determined only by the extent or total of their enrollments. The purpose of this study is to examine available records of enrollments and to interview students of college age and citizens of Independence, Kansas, to determine the extent to which the public junior colleges of Kansas are serving their purposes and functions in relation to the general junior college movement and growth of collegiate enrollments.

BACKGROUND

Kansas has 21 junior colleges. Fourteen are publicly controlled, seven privately controlled. All of the publicly controlled institutions are the municipal type. All of the privately controlled institutions are denominational.

All of the publicly controlled institutions are coeducational. All except two of the publicly controlled junior colleges have the two-year form of organization, which includes the first two years of college. The two exceptions are four-year junior colleges, which include the last two high school years.

All of the publicly controlled institutions bear the name of the city in which they are located. They are: Arkansas City

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Junior College, Chanute Junior College, Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences, and Vocations, Dodge City College, Eldorado Junior College, Fort Scott Junior College, Garden City Junior College, Highland Junior College, Hutchinson Junior College, Independence Community College, Iola Junior College, Kansas City Kansas Junior College, Parsons Junior College, and Pratt Junior College, The junior colleges located in Independence and Parsons have the four-year organization.

HISTORY AND LEGAL STATUS

The theory of a junior college was advanced as early as 1852 by Henry W. Tappan, former president of the University of Michigan, when he stated that lower division work of the colleges and universities should be done in high schools. The name "junior college" was coined 40 years later when President William Rainey Harper, of the University of Chicago, renamed an earlier division of the first two years and the last two years of college as junior and senior respectively.

It is estimated that at the turn of the century there were eight institutions recognized as junior colleges with a total enrollment of approximately 100. At this time four out of every 100 people were going to college, or only four per cent of college age youth were in higher education. The eight institutions were all privately controlled.

The first introduction of a public junior college to the educational system was in 1900 at Goshen, Indiana. This college,

however, was short lived following decision of the attorney general of that state against establishment of a public junior college. The oldest junior college to survive and grow in connection with its public school system was established in Joliet, Illinois, in 1902.

As the junior college movement itself emerged, legal enactments pertaining to junior colleges began to appear in the statutes of the states. The states provided for establishment of public junior colleges by statutory enactments under the provision in the state constitutions authorizing legislatures to provide for education for the public good. Authority for this is given to the states through the Tenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution recognizing education as the individual function of the states.

The State of California enacted the first law permitting high schools to offer the first two years of University in 1907. Two years later the City of Fresno, California, introduced the first public junior college following a legal enactment.

The first legislation concerning public junior colleges in Kansas was passed in 1917. This bill authorized a two-year extension of the high school course in the first and second class cities for the purpose of offering regularly accredited college work. Provision is made for the establishment of junior colleges by the local governing board of the district or by use of a petition as an alternate method. Final decision on establishment rests legally on the voters in the local area.

Following passage of the first legislation pertaining to public junior colleges, four communities saw the need for junior colleges and local boards passed on to voters the decision to establish junior colleges in connection with the local public school system. As a result, colleges were established in Fort Scott, Garden City, Holton, and Marysville in 1919. The colleges at Holton and Marysville have been the only two public institutions to perish of the 16 established.

While Kansas has subsequently passed further legislation pertaining to the establishment of public junior colleges, the founding depends primarily on local interest, initiative, and resources. Although there is no program of financial state aid for junior colleges, Kansas has statutory provisions for issuance of bonds for financing the school plant. Provision is also made by law for a tax levy for local support of the public junior college.

Elbert K. Fretwell, in his book, Founding Public Junior Colleges, gives four major factors common to the founding of public junior colleges:

- "(1) There was a demand for junior college instruction and a community readiness for it.
- (2) 'Prime Movers' were on the scene, either as individuals or in groups.
- (3) There was general citizen support for the new college.
- (4) Technical-administrative problems were adequately solved."

The statutory provisions of Kansas made these factors as essentials to the founding of public junior colleges. The citizens of Arkansas City led the way to a period of high junior college activity with the establishment of a public junior college in 1922. The following year colleges were established in Iola, Kansas City, Parsons, and Coffeyville. Junior colleges were added to the public school system in Independence in 1925, ElDorado in 1927, and Hutchinson in 1928.

A total of ten was maintained until the second burst of junior college developments. As a result, junior colleges were established in connection with the public school system in Dodge City in 1935, Chanute and Pratt in 1936 and 1938.

Highland Junior College completes the list of 14 existing public junior colleges in Kansas. Special mention is made since it has the longest history of any in Kansas although it did not enter the public ranks until 1937. Originally chartered as a Presbyterian institution by the Territory of Kansas in 1858 as a four-year college, it entered the junior college movement in 1920. Under special law of the legislature it was reorganized as a public junior college in 1937.

TRENDS IN COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENTS

While all institutions of higher education have experienced huge enrollments since 1950, certain trends are evident. As the demand for college-trained people increases, the number of persons receiving college education increases.

There were 2,296,592 students enrolled in the institutions of higher education and reported to the United States Office of Education in 1950. Of this total approximately half or 1,117,078 were enrolled in the universities; 566,322 in liberal arts colleges; 190,745 in teachers colleges; 104,227 in technological schools; 27,434 in theological schools; 73,214 in other professional schools; and 217,572 in junior colleges. These early fall enrollments place junior colleges third only to universities and liberal arts colleges.

The following year ¹⁹⁵¹ the major influx of veterans had passed and total enrollments as reported by the United States Office of Education for higher education dropped to 2,116,440. During this year of 1951 all segments of education on the college level showed a decrease with the exception of theological schools. The figures for this year were: 1,021,509 in universities; 531,593 in liberal arts colleges; 170,034 in teachers colleges; 95,928 in technological schools; 28,466 in theological schools; 68,823 in other professional schools; and 200,087 in junior colleges.

Circulars on Fall Enrollment in Higher Education showed an increase in enrollments in 1952. However, the total enrollment of 2,148,284 was somewhat short of the 1950 total. All segments of higher education with the exception of the professional schools experienced increases. In fact, junior colleges with a total of 239,512 surpassed their 1950 enrollment by about 12,000.

Enrollments in higher education continued to increase as

shown by the circular issued by the United States Office of Education for 1953. However, technological schools and theological schools joined the professional schools in decreasing enrollments. The fall enrollments for junior colleges increased to 252,091 while total enrollments increased to 2,250,701.

A large jump in the number of students enrolling in universities, colleges, and junior colleges in the fall of 1954 led the way to increasing enrollments for the next two years. The United States Office of Education recorded an enrollment of 2,499,750. The amazing fact of these increasing enrollments during these years is that they came from those years during which the birth rates were at a low ebb.

The Association of Higher Education of the National Education Association anticipates 3,232,000 students to enroll in colleges and universities in 1956, an increase of approximately 7.9 per cent over the approximately 3,000,000 the previous year. They state further in the College and University Bulletin of October 15, 1956, that by 1970 the total will double.

The institutions of higher education in Kansas have shared in the increasing enrollments beginning in 1952. In that year 29,634 were enrolled in the colleges and universities of the State. Of this total the four-year institutions enrolled 25,795 and junior colleges enrolled 3,839.

In 1953 the four-year institutions increased their enrollments by 3.5 per cent and totaled 26,697. Junior colleges with an enrollment totaling 4,163 showed an increase of 8.5 per cent.

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The average increase was 4.1 per cent and the total for the year was 30,860.

An increase of 4,436 students the following year brought the total to 35,296 students enrolled in the institutions of Kansas. The average increase jumped to 14.4 per cent with junior colleges showing the largest percentage of increase. The junior colleges with a total enrollment of 5,270 in 1954 showed an increase of 26.5 per cent. The colleges and universities with an enrollment of 30,026 showed an increase of 12.4 per cent. As was true of the national trend, the largest increase was evident in 1954 when an all time enrollment occurred.

Over one-half of the total enrollment in Kansas during this record year was recorded by the state institutions. Over one-third was reported by other four-year colleges; 5,475 were reported by municipal universities; 5,918 by private four-year colleges. The remaining students were reported by junior colleges with public junior colleges reporting 4,136 and private junior colleges reporting 1,423 students.

The colleges of Kansas reported a total enrollment of 39,491 in 1955, an increase of 11.9 per cent. Of the total enrollment approximately 84 per cent was reported by the four-year institutions; state institutions reported 20,448; municipal colleges reported 6,406; and private four-year colleges reported 6,304. The remaining students reported by junior colleges showed an increase of 13.5 per cent. Of the 5,982 total junior college

enrollments, 4,716 were enrolled in public junior colleges.

While there are no figures for the enrollments in the colleges of the nation available at this time, all segments of higher education were anticipating increases. The total enrollment in Kansas for 1956 was 42,426, an increase of 7.4 per cent. However, this increase in total enrollments was as a result of the enrollments in four-year institutions as the junior colleges show losses for the year. Four-year institutions had 37,132 students, an increase of 10.8 per cent. The state colleges recorded a total enrollment of 22,791; municipal colleges, 7,645; and private four-year colleges, 6,696. A decrease of 13.5 per cent was shown in the total enrollment of 5,294 in junior colleges. The total enrollment in public junior colleges was 4,075, a decrease of 13.6 per cent.

JUNIOR COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS

The American Junior College Association reports in its Junior College Directories for the years 1951 to 1956 that the growth of enrollments in junior colleges reflect the general trend of growth in all colleges. They also state that public junior colleges have shared increasing responsibility for the increasing collegiate enrollments.

The 1956 Junior College Directory showed junior college

NOTE-Total enrollment figures for the institutions in Kansas were recorded by Worth A. Fletcher, Registrar, University of Wichita. Hereinafter, any enrollments will be given along with source reporting and a wide difference will be found depending on the source and the time the enrollments were reported.

enrollments to have increased from 579,475 in 1950 to 696,321 in 1954:¹

Year	Enrollment	Increase
1949-1950	562,786	
1950-1951	579,475	2.8%
1951-1952	572,193	- 1.3%
1952-1953	560,732	- 2.0%
1953-1954	622,864	11.1%
1954-1955	696,321	11.8%

These figures for the total year show a somewhat different picture than the enrollments reported in the fall to the United States Office of Education. An increase of 2.8 per cent is shown for the year 1950-1951. However, a decrease of 1.3 per cent is shown for the yearly enrollments, following an increase in fall enrollments, for the school year 1951-1952. While fall enrollments for 1952-1953 showed an increase, total enrollments for the year were down 2 per cent.

The following two years the trend of fall enrollments is followed throughout the year. A consistent increase of approximately 11 per cent is shown for the school years 1953-1954 and 1954-1955.

The enrollments in public junior colleges from 1951 to 1954 were:

Year	Pub. Jr. Col. Enrollment
1951-1952	495,766
1952-1953	489,563
1953-1954	553,008
1954-1955	618,000

¹Jesse Bogue, 1956 Junior College Directory, p. 44.

Since approximately 90 per cent of the colleges reporting to the American Junior College Association are public institutions, the trend of enrollments corresponds closely.

The public junior college enrollment, as reported in the 1956 Junior College Directory, for the year 1951-1952 totaled 495,766. The school year of 1952-1953 showed a loss of 1.3 per cent with a total enrollment of 489,563.

The following year there was an increase of 11.5 per cent and a total enrollment of 553,008. The public institutions, with a total enrollment of 618,000 in 1954-1955, showed an increase of 11.8 per cent over the preceding year.

The trend of enrollments of the public junior colleges of Kansas as reported to the American Junior College Association followed a somewhat different pattern. The total enrollments reported by the fourteen public junior colleges of Kansas were tallied and are shown in Table 1. The enrollment figures were obtained from the Junior College Directories for the years 1951 to 1956. The total for each school, as published, was used in securing the total for the public institutions in Kansas. It should be noted, however, that an error of 118 was found in the total as given for the year 1949-1950.

The total for Dodge City was given as 316, while the figures given in distribution totaled 276:

Freshman	154
Sophomore	50
Adults	72
	<hr/> 276

The fall enrollment reported to the State Department totaled

276. Since there is wide variation between the totals reported to the State Department and those reported to the American Junior College Association due to the dates of reporting, this could be either an omission or an error in the printing of the Directory.

The 1951 Junior College Directory reported a total of 225 students enrolled in the Iola Junior College. The total as shown by distribution was 147:

Freshman	101
Sophomore	44
Special	2
	<u>147</u>

However, no explanation will be attempted as the fall enrollments reported to the State Department totaled 124.

It was assumed that the totals as published for this year were used in obtaining the total junior college enrollments for the year. While the difference might affect a later consideration of distributions, a loss in total enrollments for the public junior colleges of Kansas would still be evident in 1950-1951, although slightly smaller than the 2.7 per cent shown.

Table 1. Public Junior college enrollment in Kansas

Year	Enrollment	Increase
1949-1950	4,618	
1950-1951	4,352	- 2.7%
1951-1952	3,430	- 26.8%
1952-1953	4,973	31.0%
1953-1954	4,579	- 8.6%
1954-1955	6,069	24.6%

With a total enrollment of 3,430 in 1951-1952, there was

a 26.8 per cent decrease. In 1952-1953 the public junior colleges enrolled 4,973 students, an increase of 31 per cent. This followed the general trend of losses in enrollments during the school year 1951-1952. However, an increase was shown the following year while the Association average showed a decrease.

The following year, 1953-1954, when total junior college enrollments were increasing, the public junior colleges of Kansas with an enrollment of 4,579 showed an 8.6 per cent decrease. In 1954-1955 these institutions shared in the boom in collegiate enrollments with an increase of 24.6 per cent and a total enrollment of 6,069.

The total enrollments as reported to the State Department of Public Instruction showed the Kansas public junior colleges to follow more closely the national pattern, with the exception of 1950 and 1956. The total enrollments for the years 1950 to 1953 were taken from the State Department publication, Kansas Junior College Report, for those years. The total for 1949 was taken from the same publication, only for the years 1948-1949 and 1949-1950. The totals for 1954 and 1955 were obtained by adding the enrollments of the fourteen public junior colleges as given in the yearly Directory published by the State Department. The total for 1956 was obtained by adding the enrollments sent to the State Department on September 15 of this school year.

The general trend of enrollments in junior colleges showed an increase in 1950 while the total fall enrollment of Kansas public junior colleges was less than the preceding year. It will

be noted by Table 2 that the junior colleges in Arkansas City, Chanute, Dodge City, Eldorado, Fort Scott, Independence, Kansas City, and Parsons showed losses in total enrollment. Independence Community College showed the greatest loss, dropping from 278 in 1949 to 212 in 1950. The junior colleges at Coffeyville, Garden City, Highland, Hutchinson, Iola, and Pratt show gains in total enrollment. The Iola Junior College showed the largest gain, increasing from 124 to 158, a total of 34 students. However, Coffeyville and Hutchinson increased their enrollments of the previous year by 33 students each, and Garden City Junior College showed an increase of 31 students.

Table 2. Fall enrollments in Kansas public junior colleges

College	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Arkansas City	221	199	169	192	251	320	346	335
Chanute	186	163	110	152	162	183	201	173
Coffeyville	459	492	717	361	341	447	470	447
Dodge City	276	266	162	236	305	221	252	261
Eldorado	222	212	167	164	222	280	288	288
Fort Scott	181	168	104	108	142	139	139	174
Garden City	174	205	185	174	195	178	248	230
Highland	49	64	85	105	121	123	126	164
Hutchinson	417	450	403	412	438	465	534	580
Independence	278	212	155	211	210	269	263	270
Iola	124	158	114	94	105	156	155	123
Kansas City	438	399	393	440	438	429	510	537
Parsons	242	209	147	142	172	280	287	287
Pratt	154	162	112	87	128	200	245	304
Total	3,421	3,359	3,023	2,878	3,230	3,690	4,064	4,173

The fall enrollments for the year 1951 dropped, a loss of 336 students from the total of the previous year. A total of 3,023 students were enrolled in the public junior colleges on September 15 of that year. Only two schools showed a gain in

total enrollment. The Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences, and Vocations had an outstanding gain totaling 225 students. Highland Junior College increased their enrollment 21 students.

Large losses were shown by the other institutions, with the exception of Kansas City with only six and Garden City with 11. The other losses ranged from 44 in Iola to 104 in Dodge City.

The decreasing enrollments continued in 1952 with a total public junior college enrollment of 2,878. However, six institutions, Arkansas City, Chanute, Dodge City, Garden City, Independence, Kansas City, showed increases ranging from 11 to 72 students. It is interesting to note that Dodge City Junior College, with the largest decrease for the previous year, had the greatest increase for 1952.

It will also be noted that after having increased their enrollment by 225 in 1951, Coffeyville had a decrease of 356 in 1952. The other junior colleges decreased by a comparatively small number of students ranging from one in Fort Scott to 25 in Pratt.

In 1953 total enrollments for the junior colleges of Kansas were 3,230, an increase of 352 students. Eleven institutions showed individual gains in total enrollment ranging from 10 in Chanute to 69 in Dodge City. For two consecutive years, it will be noted, Dodge City reported the largest individual increase. The three schools with losses in total enrollment were Coffeyville, with a decrease of 20 students, Kansas City, with two, and Independence, with one.

The 1954 boom in college enrollments was shared by the public junior colleges of Kansas, increasing total enrollment 460 students to a new total of 3,690. Ten institutions reported increases. The largest growth in enrollment was shown by Parsons with an increase of 108 students and Coffeyville with an increase of 106. Dodge City, after having the largest increase for two consecutive years, had the largest decrease for 1954. The colleges at Fort Scott, Garden City, and Kansas City also decreased in total enrollment.

The fall enrollments increased to 4,064 in 1955. Eleven junior colleges shared the increasing enrollment. Kansas City reported the largest increase totaling 81; Garden City and Hutchinson reported increases totaling 70 and 69 respectively. Fort Scott Junior College reported a total enrollment of 139 for two consecutive years. Independence and Iola decrease total enrollments slightly, with a total decrease of six and one respectively.

A record enrollment of 4,173 was reported to the State Department by the public junior colleges for 1956. However, only half of the public junior colleges shared in this increase. Pratt had the largest increase totaling 59; Hutchinson gained 46; Highland increased 38; Fort Scott, 35; Kansas City, 27; Dodge City, 9; and Independence, 7. ElDorado and Parsons reported the same enrollment for both 1955 and 1956, 288 and 287 respectively. Arkansas City, Chanute, Coffeyville, Garden City, and Iola decreased in total enrollment.

Based on the fall enrollments as shown, Coffeyville enrolled the largest number of students in 1950 and 1951, with a total of 492 and 717 respectively. Kansas City had the largest fall enrollment in 1952, and shared first place with Hutchinson in 1953, both having a total enrollment of 438. Hutchinson reported the largest enrollment from 1954 to 1956 with a total enrollment of 465 in 1954, 534 in 1955, and 580 in 1956.

The institution reporting the smallest fall enrollment for four of the seven years from 1950 to 1956, Highland, was the only public junior college in Kansas to show an increase for each year during the period.

Enrollments on the whole for the period were quite sporadic, however, several institutions experienced periods of constant increases. Arkansas City increased total enrollments during the period from 1952 to 1955, as did Chanute. Eldorado and Parsons increased enrollments from 1953 to 1955 and maintained an equal enrollment in 1956. Pratt increased enrollments in the years 1953 to 1956.

Eleven institutions recorded a larger enrollment in 1956 than had been reported in 1950.

COMPARISON OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT SOURCES

Four sources have been referred to for total enrollments for the period studied, 1950 to 1956. The United States Office of Education, the State Department of Public Instruction, and

the report by Worth A. Fletcher, registrar, University of Wichita, were presented as fall enrollment figures. The enrollments, as presented by the American Association of Junior Colleges, were totals for the school year.

While it can readily be understood that the total for the year would vary from the fall enrollments, it was also noted that the three sources for fall enrollments showed great variation. The enrollments as quoted by the Junior College Directory for 1952 and the 1952 American Junior College for the school year 1950-1951 also showed variations.

The enrollment in the fall of 1950 as reported to the State Department, as of September 15, showed a total public junior college enrollment of 3,359. The total for the school year as recorded by the American Junior College Association was 4,352. This could indicate a large number of new enrollments throughout the year and increases are noted in the distribution of students. However, examination of enrollments as reported for the total year showed only one school reporting a total in close agreement. The Junior College Directory reported an enrollment of 267 for Dodge City and the American Junior College reported 266, a difference of only one.

Hereinafter, the first enrollment figure quoted will be from the 1952 Junior College Directory and the second will be from the 1952 American Junior College, by Jesse P. Bogue. The pages of the Directory are unnumbered, however, the public junior colleges are listed together as part of the Kansas

junior colleges. The totals from the 1952 American Junior College are listed under "Enrollment" for the individual schools in the section on Kansas.

As stated, Dodge City was the only college to report two different totals which were in close agreement. However, three schools show the same enrollment in both sources: Independence with 232, Iola with 171, and Garden City with 205.

The total enrollments showing variations were: Arkansas City, 346 and 322; Chanute, 185 and 225; Coffeyville, 894 and 678; Eldorado, 228 and 278; Fort Scott, 258 and 184; Highland, 130 and 164; Hutchinson, 495 and 450; Kansas City, 469 and 399; Parsons, 283 and 243; Pratt, 189 and 179. It will be noted that most of the enrollments reported in the Directory are larger. However, Chanute and Eldorado show the reverse. The smallest variation was shown by Pratt with 10; the largest by Coffeyville with 116.

Two sources were available for enrollments for 1951. The State Department reported a fall enrollment of 3,023 and the 1953 Junior College Directory shows enrollments for individual colleges totaling 3,430. However, an error of one was found in the totaling of enrollments and distribution as recorded on page 13 of the Directory.

Two sources were available for fall enrollments for 1952. Enrollments are given respectively for the State Department of Public Instruction and the report by Worth A. Fletcher, registrar, University of Wichita. Arkansas City reported 192 and

196; Dodge City reported 236 and 285; Eldorado, 164 and 167; Highland, 105 and 83; Iola, 94 and 93; Kansas City, 440 and 441; Parsons, 142 and 139. The small difference would indicate the anticipated drop-outs and late entries. The exceptions are Dodge City and Highland, reporting their largest figure to different sources. Both sources reported the following enrollments: Chanute 152, Coffeyville 361, Fort Scott 108, Garden City 174, Hutchinson 412, Independence 211, and Pratt 87.

The State Department reported a total of 2,878 enrollments as of September 15, 1952. The total of enrollments for public junior colleges as computed from the report from the University of Wichita, was 2,909. The yearly total for 1952-1953 obtained from enrollments given on page 13 of the 1954 Junior College Directory was 4,973.

The fall enrollments as reported by the State Department and Worth A. Fletcher for 1953 are 3,230 and 3,206 respectively. The small difference in totals reflects the agreement in enrollments for the individual schools. The exceptions to totals as given in Table 2 are: Arkansas City, 251 and 245; Chanute, 162 and 164; Coffeyville, 341 and 411; Dodge City, 305 and 205; Eldorado, 222 and 232; however, the reporting of Dodge City is considered to be a reproduction error by the University of Wichita.

The yearly total for 1953-1954 as reported by the American Junior College Association was 4,579. The school enrollments are listed on pages 12 and 13 of the 1955 Junior College Directory.

The State Department enrollments for the fall of 1954 totaled 3,690, while the total of public institutions for this year on the report of Worth A. Fletcher totaled 4,281. Chanute, Fort Scott, with enrollments of 183 and 139 respectively, reported the same to both sources.

The schools and enrollments with small variations indicating drop-outs and late entries were: Arkansas City, 320 and 325; Coffeyville, 447 and 456; Eldorado, 280 and 276; Garden City, 178 and 187; Highland, 123 and 145; Hutchinson, 465 and 468; Independence, 269 and 275; Iola, 156 and 158; Kansas City, 429 and 441; Parsons, 280 and 289; the exceptions possibly being Garden City and Highland. Garden City, due to the similarity of figures, 178 and 187, could be a transposition of figures. Highland, due to its small size, might include in its report to the University of Wichita, adult enrollments in special courses.

The large variations were shown by Dodge City reporting 221 and 489 and Pratt reporting 200 and 450. Investigation disclosed that this difference was due to the inclusion of enrollments in adult classes in the report to Dr. Fletcher.

Total enrollment for 1954-1955 was reported as 6,069 by the 1956 Junior College Directory, p. 4. The 1956 American Junior College reported 6,221, page 209, including private institutions. Enrollments as given for the public junior colleges individually in this section total 4,986. Five schools reported the same total enrollment to both sources: Dodge City,

564; Garden City, 241; Hutchinson, 468; and Kansas City, 532. Highland reported 172 and 179; Iola reported 177 and 178. The large variations were shown by Arkansas City reporting 606 and 588; Chanute, 242 and 200; Coffeyville, 949 and 607; ElDorado, 466 and 304; Fort Scott, 275 and 152; Parsons, 519 and 455; and Pratt, 540 and 200. Since all of the enrollments which vary show the largest total in the Directory, it would seem that the difference would reflect growth in adult enrollments, probably in the second semester. However, Independence Community College, reporting identical totals, records its largest adult enrollment in the second semester.

The State Department reported a fall enrollment for 1955 totaling 4,064 and the report by Worth A. Fletcher showed a total of 4,846. The difference again is due to the inclusion of adult enrollments to the latter source.

The enrollments and junior colleges with large variations are: Arkansas City, 346 and 475; Dodge City, 252 and 477; ElDorado, 288 and 373; Fort Scott, 139 and 177; and Pratt, 245 and 539. Institutions reporting small variations of drop-outs and late entries are: Coffeyville, 470 and 468; Highland, 126 and 130; Hutchinson, 534 and 527; Independence, 263 and 268; Iola, 155 and 165; and Parsons, 287 and 288. Chanute reported an enrollment of 201 to both sources; Garden City, 248; and Kansas City, 510.

For the fall of 1956 a uniform method of reporting total enrollments was agreed upon by junior college officials and

adult enrollments in special courses were omitted. The enrollment reported by the State Department was 4,173 and the report from the University of Wichita showed public junior college enrollments totaling 4,233. Total enrollments were the same for individual schools or reflected the expected drop-outs and late entries. However, there was still one exception. Eldorado reported 288 to the State Department and 325 to the University of Wichita.

Reported enrollments for the other colleges were: Arkansas City, 335 and 338; Chanute, 173 and 173; Coffeyville, 447 and 456; Dodge City, 261 and 264; Fort Scott, 174 and 178; Garden City, 230 and 230; Highland, 164 and 158; Hutchinson, 580 and 583; Independence, 270 and 270; Iola, 123 and 123; Kansas City, 537 and 541; Parsons, 287 and 293; and Pratt, 304 and 301.

DISTRIBUTION OF ENROLLMENTS

Table 3 shows the distribution of enrollments for the junior colleges reporting to the American Junior College Association for the period from 1950-1951 to 1954-1955;¹ the percentage shows the relationship to the total enrollment for the year.

¹Jesse Bogue, 1956 Junior College Directory, p. 43.

NOTE-Totals as shown from the report by Worth A. Fletcher, Registrar, University of Wichita, are totals obtained from enrollments given in the section on enrollment in Kansas junior colleges. This method was used to show agreement in differences between enrollments reported to the State Department. These totals do not agree with those given in the division of higher education totals in Kansas in that report.

Table 3. Enrollments by class in junior colleges in the U. S.

Year :	Freshman :	% :	Sophomore :	% :	Others :	% :	Total :	%
1950-1951	164,523	28	93,622	16	321,330	56	579,475	100
1951-1952	139,850	25	70,976	12	361,367	63	572,193	100
1952-1953	156,192	28	70,065	12	334,475	60	560,732	100
1953-1954	172,566	27	83,138	13	367,160	60	622,864	100
1954-1955	190,634	28	85,802	12	419,885	60	696,321	100

In 1950-1951 there were 579,475 junior college students. Approximately 28 per cent of these students were freshmen, a total of 164,523; 16 per cent were sophomores, 93,622; and 56 per cent were special and adult students, 321,330.

In 1951-1952 there was a decrease in total enrollments and 572,193 students were enrolled in junior colleges. One-fourth, or 25 per cent, of these were freshman students totaling 139,850. The freshman class followed the trend of total enrollments showing a smaller enrollment for the year and a slightly smaller per cent of the total enrollment for the year. The sophomore class decreased in percentage of total enrollment and enrollments, totaling 70,976 or 12 per cent of total enrollments. The special and adult category showed a large increase in total enrollments and a slightly larger increase in per cent of the total enrollment for the year. There were 361,367 special and adult students for the school year 1951-1952, approximately 63 per cent of the total enrollment for the year.

The 560,732 students enrolled in junior colleges in 1952-1953 reflected the large decrease in special and adult students totaling 334,475. However, these students accounted for 60 per cent of the students enrolled for this year, only a slight

decrease percentage-wise." This decrease reflects the growth in freshman enrollments which totaled 156,192 and 28 per cent of the total enrollment. The sophomore class lost only a small number of total enrollments for the year. The 70,065 sophomores remained as 12 per cent of the total junior college enrollments for the year.

The following two years, while enrollments as a whole increased, the percentage of total enrollments represented by each category remained approximately the same. In 1953-1954 the 172,566 freshmen represented 27 per cent of total enrollments; 83,138 sophomores represented 13 per cent of enrollments; 367,160 special and adult students represented 60 per cent of total enrollments for the year."

In 1954-1955 the enrollment of 190,634 freshmen accounted for 28 per cent of junior college enrollments; 85,802 sophomores, 12 per cent; 419,885 special and adult students, 60 per cent. Of the total enrollment of 696,321 approximately 16 per cent, or 109,571, were special students and 44 per cent, or 310,314, were adult students."

"It will be noticed that for the five-year period the special and adult students accounted for the largest group of students enrolled in junior colleges. The percentage of total enrollments remained approximately the same for each category during this five-year period. Approximately one-fourth, or 25 per cent, of the students, were freshmen; slightly under 15 per cent were sophomores; and approximately three-fifths, or 60 per cent, were special or adult students."

The pattern for percentage of total enrollments, as shown by the public junior colleges of Kansas, was quite different. The enrollments for the individual junior colleges as shown in the Kansas section of the Junior College Directories for the years from 1951 to 1956 were totaled and distribution is as shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Enrollments by class in Kansas public junior colleges

Year :	Freshman:	%	Sophomore:	%	Others:	%	Total
1950-1951	2,114	49	1,319	30	919	21	4,352
1951-1952	1,788	53	968	27	673	20	3,430*
1952-1953	2,029	41	900	18	2,044	41	4,973
1953-1954	2,306	50	1,041	23	1,232	26	4,579
1954-1955	2,731	45	1,370	23	1,968	32	6,069

For the five year period, as shown in Table 4, the freshmen accounted for approximately one-half of the public junior college enrollments in Kansas. While there is a wider variation in percentages than shown in the total for the Association, the sophomores account for approximately one-fourth of the enrollment and the special and adult students represent the remaining one-fourth of the enrollment. The wider variations in percentages of enrollments seem principally due to sporadic enrollments in the special and adult groups."

In 1950-1951 the 2,114 freshmen represented approximately half, or 49 per cent; the 1,319 sophomores represented three-fifths, or 30 per cent; and the 919 special and adult students represented one-fifth approximately, or 21 per cent of the

total enrollment of 4,352. There were 597 special students, 13 per cent of the total, and 322 adult students, 8 per cent of the total.

The total enrollment for 1951-1952 is shown in Table 4 as 3,430*. It will be noted in the distribution of students that the total calculated would be 3,429. The distribution of enrollment for Fort Scott listed 106 freshmen, 53 sophomores, total 160. The actual total for the figures given would be 159. However, since it was not known which figure was incorrect, the figures as given were used in computing totals.

The freshman enrollments totaling 1,788 followed the decline in total enrollments; however, they represented a larger percentage of the total, or 53 per cent. The total sophomore enrollment dropped to 968 and to 27 per cent of the total enrollment. About the same percentage of total enrollment is shown by the 673 special and adult students. They represent one-fifth, or 20 per cent, of the total enrollment. There is a change, however, in the proportion enrolled as special and adult students: 312, or 9 per cent, are special students and 361, or 11 per cent, are adult students.

In 1952-1953 the total enrollment increased to 4,973 and freshman enrollments increased to 2,029. However, the large increase in special and adult students totaling 2,044 represented approximately 41 per cent of the total enrollment and the representation by freshman students dropped to 41 per cent; the 900 sophomore students dropped their representation of total

enrollment to 18 per cent. The 1,801 adult students accounted for this large increase and represented 36 per cent of the total enrollment. The remaining 5 per cent included 243 special students.

In 1953-1954 the decrease in special and adult students to 1,232 represented 26 per cent of the total enrollment, or approximately one-fourth of the 4,579 public junior college students. The 2,306 freshmen represented one-half, or 50 per cent, of the total enrollment; the 1,041 sophomores represented 23 per cent, or approximately one-fourth of the total enrollment. In line with the increasing total enrollment, enrollment in the freshman, sophomore, and special groups increased. There were 444 special students, approximately 9 per cent of the total enrollment, and 788 adult students representing 17 per cent of the total enrollment.

In 1954-1955 total enrollments increased along with freshman, sophomore, and adult enrollments. Special student enrollments decreased slightly. The 2,731 freshmen, 1,370 sophomores, 315 special students, and 1,653 adult students represented, respectively, 45 per cent, 23 per cent, 5 per cent, and 27 per cent, of the total enrollment of 6,069. The special and adult students totaled 1,968 and represented 32 per cent of the total.

4. The distribution of enrollments in the junior colleges of the nation indicate their greatest service is in course work offered to students in the adult and special student category. The junior colleges of Kansas, on the other hand, principally

serve the youth of the State who desire college training.

SIZE AND LOCATION

The size of both county and city appear to have a direct bearing on the size of the public junior college. Table 5 gives in alphabetical order the total population of the cities in which public junior colleges are located. It also gives directly opposite the city, the county and total population for the county in which the junior college is located. These population figures were taken from the official United States census for 1950.

Table 5. Population based on 1950 census for Kansas cities and counties with public junior colleges

City	Population	County	Population
Arkansas City	12,903	Cowley	36,905
Chanute	10,109	Neosho	20,348
Coffeyville	17,113	Montgomery	46,487
Dodge City	11,262	Ford	19,670
Eldorado	11,037	Butler	31,001
Fort Scott	10,335	Bourbon	19,153
Garden City	10,905	Finney	15,092
Highland	717	Doniphan	10,499
Hutchinson	33,575	Reno	54,058
Independence	11,335	Montgomery	46,487
Iola	7,094	Allen	18,187
Kansas City	129,553	Wyandotte	165,318
Parsons	14,750	Labette	29,285
Pratt	7,523	Pratt	12,156

The largest city having a public junior college in Kansas is Kansas City with a total population of 129,553. Kansas City is located in the largest county, Wyandotte, with a total population of 165,318. The Kansas City Junior College ranked third in size

of total enrollment in 1950, numbering 469. However, the freshman class totaling 291 was the second largest in the State. It should be noted that their total enrollment is limited by their small number of special and adult students. They also are situated very near a four-year institution, the University of Kansas, and would necessarily share their drawing power with this institution.

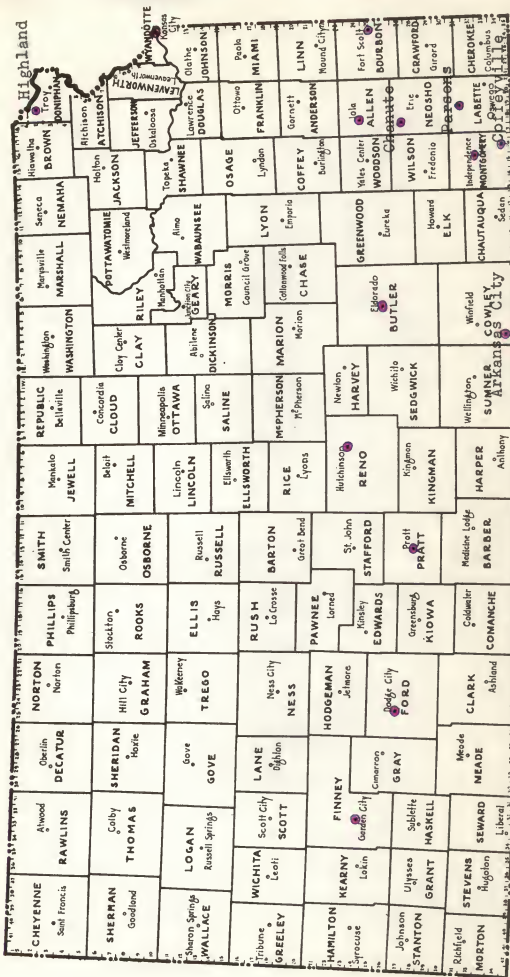
The second largest city is Hutchinson with a total population of 33,575, located in the second largest county, Reno, with a population of 54,058. Hutchinson had the second-ranking institution by size of total enrollment number 495. They follow the lead of Kansas City and offer a curriculum to youth interested in a college education rather than to those interested in special or adult education and thus limit their size in comparison with the junior college field. Hutchinson, with a freshman enrollment of 347, ranked first in first year students and it should be noted on the map on the following page that their location benefits them in this respect.

Coffeyville's total population is given as 17,113. It is located in Montgomery County, total population 46,487. For the year 1950 the Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences, and Vocations was the largest in the State as a result of its large enrollment in the special and adult field. Its freshman class totaling 270 was the third largest in the state. However, its sophomore class was the largest for the year. It should be noted that there are two public junior colleges located within



REMARKS

Indicates location of public junior college



the county and the drawing power would be somewhat lessened.

It will be noted in Table 4 that there is a large difference in total population for the three largest cities in Kansas, totaling 129,553; 33,575; and 17,113 respectively; and the counties totaling respectively 165,318; 54,058; 46,487. Nevertheless, Coffeyville with a large special and adult enrollment showed a total of 894 for the year while Hutchinson and Kansas City enrolled 469 and 495 with a very small special and adult enrollment.

Following the drops in total population of the three leading cities and counties, the total population for the cities with public junior colleges tends to be more nearly alike. Moreover, the size of the colleges range within a uniform number. For example, the junior colleges at Dodge City, ElDorado, Fort Scott, Garden City, and Independence enrolled in 1950 between 200 and 300 students and their population ranges from 10,000 to 12,000.

There are, of course, exceptions. Arkansas City with a population of 12,903 enrolled 346 students, including a large special and adult group. Their freshman and sophomore enrollments were similar to the other cities. It should be noted, also, that their county is somewhat larger and that they are situated somewhat alone while some of the others are located quite close to each other.

Parsons Junior College would also come within the 200 and 300 range while their population is somewhat larger totaling

14,750. However, their county population is in line with the others and they are located quite close to other public junior colleges. Their special and adult enrollment, while showing a service to the community, is in line with the other colleges.

The remaining institutions ranged from 100 to 200 in total enrollment in 1950. The smallest college is Highland, which is located in the smallest municipality and smallest county. They, however, through cooperation with adjoining counties and special and adult enrollments maintain a total enrollment in line with the other institutions. The institutions at Iola and Pratt are located in cities of approximately 7,000, but varying size counties. While the size of the city has the determining feature apparently, location also appears to have a hand with Iola located in the vicinity with several other schools and Pratt located somewhat alone. Chanute, with a larger population to draw from, seems somewhat limited in size by its location in the vicinity with the large number of junior colleges.

Assuming that population increases would be equal, it will be noticed that the uniformity in size of schools remains constant, with the exception of large special and adult enrollments. For example, Eldorado and Independence, with populations of approximately 11,000 in 1950 had equal total enrollments in 1951 numbering 167; their freshman enrollments were 115 and 106 respectively; sophomore enrollments totaled 42 and 53; and special students numbered 10 and 8. Dodge City, on the other

hand, with a population of approximately 11,000, enrolled 140 adults and their total enrollment was 288. Their freshman and sophomore enrollments, however, were in line with the other two schools totaling 103 and 41 respectively.

These trends follow throughout the period studied, even to follow a yearly trend of decreasing and increasing enrollments. For example, the modal group in size of college for Kansas in 1950 was 200 and 300. In 1951 when the national trend was for decreasing enrollments, the modal group was 100 to 200. In 1952 when enrollments began climbing the modal group was 400 to 500. In 1953 this remained constant. In 1954 in line with the boom in enrollments the modal group increased its enrollments to the 500 to 600 group.

It should also be noted that with this increase the colleges began to show the impact of location and the size of colleges covered a larger range in total enrollments. For example, in 1950 there were four schools with an enrollment between 100 and 200, six schools with an enrollment between 200 and 300, one school with an enrollment between 300 and 400, two schools with an enrollment between 400 and 500, and one school with an enrollment between 600 and 700. However, in 1954 there were only two schools with an enrollment between 100 and 200, three schools with an enrollment between 200 and 300, one school with an enrollment between 300 and 400, two schools with an enrollment between 500 and 600, one school with an enrollment between 600 and 700, and one school with an

enrollment between 900 and 1,000. These figures are based on the total enrollments as given in the Junior College Directories for the period given.

A COMPARISON

Three states within the North Central Association were chosen for comparison of public junior colleges. The states, Iowa, Missouri, and Oklahoma, were chosen because they are primarily agricultural states and because their total number of junior colleges compared closely to the number in Kansas.

These states follow in this order as to number of junior colleges: Iowa has 23; Kansas, 20; Missouri 18; and Oklahoma, 16. Iowa ranks fifth among the states in number of institutions and Kansas ranks ninth.

When public institutions are considered, Iowa leads with 16 public junior colleges; Kansas has 14; Oklahoma, 13; and Missouri, only 7. Missouri ranks sixth in states on basis of private institutions.

All of the public junior colleges in Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri are of the municipal type and associated with the local school systems. Of the public institutions in Oklahoma, seven are controlled by the state and six by municipalities; five of the state junior colleges are under the control of the Board of Regents for Oklahoma A. & M. Colleges, appointed by the governor.

All of the public institutions of these states are

coeducational with the exception of one located in Oklahoma, which is a military institution for men only.

All of the public institutions in Iowa and Oklahoma have the two-year form of organization. All but two in the states of Kansas and Missouri have the two-year form of organization. These four exceptions, two in each state, are united with public 6-4-4 systems. These four, Missouri's Jefferson City Junior College and Moberly Junior College and Kansas' Independence Community College and Parsons Junior College, incorporate the last two years of high school with the two years of junior college.

In Kansas eight junior colleges have summer sessions; Missouri has seven junior colleges with summer sessions; Iowa has six junior colleges with summer sessions; and Oklahoma has three junior colleges with summer sessions.

All of the public institutions in Kansas are accredited by both the State Department and the state universities. Oklahoma has one which is accredited by only the State Department; Iowa has three accredited by only the State Department; Missouri has two accredited by only the State Department.

Missouri, with the smallest number of public institutions, has the largest number accredited with the regional association, four are members of the North Central Association. Oklahoma has three accredited with the North Central Association and one with military accreditation. Iowa has two institutions with regional accreditation, and Kansas has only one.

These statistics were compiled from the 1956 Junior College Directory and the 1956 American Junior Colleges.

The population for these states according to the 1950 United States Census are: Missouri 3,954,653; Iowa 2,233,351; Oklahoma, 2,621,073; and Kansas 1,905,299.

The total enrollments given in Table 6 are computed from the student enrollments listed for the public institutions in for these states in the Junior College Directories for the years given. The asterick* indicates an error or difference in the total as given and the total arrived at by figures given in the distribution of students.

Table 6. Public junior college enrollments in Kansas and neighboring states

Year :	Kansas :	Oklahoma :	Missouri :	Iowa :
1950-1951	4,352	4,222	5,176	5,321
1951-1952	3,430	3,912*	4,821*	6,482
1952-1953	4,973	4,048	4,362	5,930
1953-1954	4,579	4,692	6,116	6,387
1954-1955	6,069	5,634	6,712	9,957

Missouri with the largest population of the four states, but with the smallest number of public junior colleges, showed a larger enrollment than Oklahoma and Kansas. Iowa, with the largest number of public institutions, and a population larger than that of Kansas or Oklahoma, recorded the largest enrollment each year for public junior colleges. Kansas, with the largest number of public institutions, and Oklahoma, with the larger population, vary in enrollments in public junior colleges with Kansas leading three years and Oklahoma leading two years.

The largest public institution in Iowa is Fort Dodge Junior College with 2,391 students, eleven-twelfths of its students are special and adult enrollments. The second largest institution is located at Mason City and has a total enrollment of 2,061 shown in the 1956 Junior College Directory, approximately four-fifths of the enrollment being special and adult students. The enrollments in freshman and sophomore classes for these two institutions are in line with the modal group of Kansas institutions.

The 1956 Junior College Directory listed 3,584 students for the Kansas City Junior College, which ranked as the largest in Missouri, and almost two-thirds of the enrollments were special and adult students. The Cameron State Agricultural College with 1,163 students was the largest institution in Oklahoma. The largest institution in Kansas for the school year 1954-1955 was the Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences and Vocations with 949 students, somewhat less than half are special and adult students.

Oklahoma had the largest percentage of students enrolled as freshmen and sophomores. They also showed the greatest percentage of retention in the sophomore year. However, this retention was only slightly higher than that found in the Kansas institution average.

Missouri showed a higher retention of freshman into the sophomore year than Kansas, although again it was just slightly higher than Kansas. The special and adult group was in line with the percentage of total enrollment shown by Kansas until the two year period from 1953 to 1955, when it rose to almost 50 per cent.

Iowa showed a smaller retention in the sophomore year than the other states, although it was the only state to show an increase in retention each year. Its percentage of adult students in relation to total enrollment ranged from 59.5 per cent in 1950 to 75 per cent in 1954.

RETENTION OF STUDENTS

The State Department of Public Instruction is responsible for the standards of the public junior colleges of Kansas. In the published Criteria the requirement for admission to these colleges is essentially graduation from an accredited high school. The growth in high school graduates has brought about a large increase in collegiate enrollments in Kansas and the public junior colleges have shared in this increase.

However, President McCain, of Kansas State College, in an address to the junior college officials of the State stated that there are both too many and too few students in college today. The "too few" present the problem in retention today. Various studies have shown that for every boy and girl in college today, there is another of equal intelligence who is not attending. Alex A. Daughtry in his "Report On Post Graduation Activities of the 1955 Kansas High School Graduates" listed nineteen reasons given by Kansas high school principals for students not attending college.¹

¹Alex A. Daughtry, "A Report on Post-Graduation Activities of the 1955 Kansas High School Graduates," Emporia State Research Studies, Volume 5, No. 2, p. 48.

Several of these reasons had financial bases. During this period the national estimate was that there were between 60,000 and 100,000 high school graduates of college ability who failed to enroll in college for financial reasons.¹

While the public junior colleges of Kansas attempt to bring to the youth free, or practically free, college education there are certain expenses which must be paid by the student. There is no tuition for residents of the State at most of the institutions. However, Kansas City is an exception and has a tuition charge. Several of the others charge tuition for non-residents. The counties adjoining Doniphan pay a tuition for their residents attending Highland Junior College.

All institutions, however, have charges required of all students, usually in the form of activity tickets, and special subjects of the laboratory type have additional fees or charges. The cost of books and materials must also be considered as a financial responsibility for the student. There is, however, a growing program of student aid in the form of scholarships and student loans.

Another reason for students not attending college as shown by several studies, including Dr. Daughtry's, is the lack of desire for further education. It is estimated that this group totals approximately 100,000 on the national level.²

¹Charles C. Cole, Jr., "Current Loss of Talent from High School to College: Summary of a Report," Higher Education, November, 1955, p. 38.

²Ibid., p. 38.

Contributing to this lack of interest in college training is the availability of employment without further education and the inability of parents to realize the advantage of further education for their children. Matrimonial plans and today's requirement for military service also contribute to a lack of interest.

A study of the 1956 high school graduates from Independence Community College supported not only these findings, but various other studies proving that more young people attend college where facilities are available. Of the 133 graduates for the year, 77 continued their education, or approximately 58 per cent of the graduating class. Five girls entered nurses training, 18 graduates went away to four-year colleges or universities, and 54 students continued their education at Independence Community College, approximately 41 per cent of the graduating class.

The graduating class included 71 boys and 62 girls. Forty-nine (49) boys continued their education; 34 enrolled in Independence Community College and 15 enrolled in other colleges and universities. Of the group attending other institutions one boy was moving with his family to a city with a four-year institution, three were going away on scholarships, and one had chosen on the basis of his religious beliefs. Three girls went to other colleges and universities; one as a result of the family moving to California.

All of the students attending four-year institutions were of college ability as shown by the testing program of the

Independence Community College. Most had based their choice of school as a result of family influence or background, and very little emphasis or guidance was evident as to professional choice.

There were 56 students discontinuing their education following high school graduation. However, 11 were boys who were entering military service and would possibly continue their education following their discharge. Fourteen girls discontinued their education following their marriage. The remaining 31 graduates, 11 boys and 20 girls, lacked interest or ability for continued education.

President Tompkins, of Fairleigh Dickinson College, sees the community college as a partial solution to lack of interest, due to its size and location, and the opportunity it has for relating education to the individual needs and to the community. He suggested that the industrial needs of a community must be known and industry must share in the task of building the course of study which would serve it. Provision should also be made for actual work experience.¹

While the principal emphasis of the Independence Community College is on preparation for further college education, two-year courses in teacher training, business training, and vocational shop training are offered. However, interviews with businessmen and students revealed that neither realized the contribution that terminal education for the two-year junior

¹Sam Martino Tompkins, Community College in Action.

college period could offer to their future life within the community. In line with this, an article in This Week entitled, "School Didn't Give Us What We Want," it is pointed out that the youth of the nation do not see the practicality of educational training.¹

President Tompkins further stated that the community college has the advantage of being able to reach parents so that they may understand what the college is trying to do. It enables parents to discuss intelligently college developments and thus encourage self-guidance on the part of students.² While parents who had attended college and who had children enrolling in college work in Independence understood the value of college training, interviews disclosed that parents saw little advantage to a two-year college course and parents of children lacking interest in college training could not see the practicality of college training. However, several parents and students saw the advantage of a two-year college program for teachers, with this program being limited in their minds to the women students.

F. P. O'Brien stated in his study for Pratt, Kansas, in 1935, entitled, "The Public Junior College as a Community Asset," that the junior college suffers most from the absence of three essentials: college atmosphere, adequate standards, and robust student morale. Since that time standards have

¹Jack Stewart, "School Didn't Give Us What We Want," This Week, October 14, 1956, p. 10.
²Sam Martino Tompkins, Community College in Action.

constantly been improved. Interviews with students of the Independence Community College led to a belief that the opportunity for building a new type of atmosphere associated with the junior college was available. The principal criticism was that there was no feeling of advancing either by course material or personal status. The latter refers to the responsibility of the student in relationship to attendance, course study, and parent-school relationship.

Jesse P. Bogue stated that the growth of junior colleges today is retarded by the lack of cooperation between junior and senior colleges, scarcity of teachers, and lack of suitable materials in some fields of study.¹ Interviews with Independence Community College officials and students revealed that a source of student guidance was being overlooked in the lack of cooperation between the junior and senior colleges. Students of the Independence Community College were not receiving guidance from the senior colleges, or four-year institutions, in relation to their professional choice. In addition, senior college officials would be able to reassure junior college students of the quality of instruction which they might receive while living at home. Cooperation would also enable officials of both colleges to consider the individual and give guidance as to his needs, especially in relationship to those students who must support their college career by outside work.

A common criticism given by students and citizens concerning

¹Jesse P. Bogue, 1952 American Junior Colleges.

the Independence Community College was the lack of quality teachers. This criticism is directly related to the scarcity of teachers today. The great demand for teachers and the individual desire to advance contributes to a community feeling of instability of its teachers. On the other hand, the size of the community leads to criticism of teachers who are permanent due to their close relationship to individuals and to the community. Examination of the college staff disclosed them to have the course preparation adequate for college teaching and most had the personal qualifications and teaching ability.

While the budget of a junior college in relation to that of a senior college of the State would limit the materials and number of teachers in certain fields of study, the first two years of college training in our education system today are somewhat basic and this training is offered in the Independence Community College. A stronger cooperation between junior and senior colleges would lead to an interchange of ideas through which the junior college might enrich and improve their course material. It would also help to inform students of the adequacy of course material offered by the junior college as preparation for entry into the last two years of college work in a four-year institution.

The enrollment figures for the freshman years for all of the public junior colleges of Kansas reflect the success of the public junior colleges in providing college education for the youth of the community. The failure of the junior college

program is reflected in the lack of retention from the freshman to sophomore year. While the state colleges during the last few years have shown approximately an 80 per cent retention of their freshman students during the sophomore year by total enrollment,¹ the public junior colleges showed not quite a 50 per cent retention in the sophomore year during the period studied.

Theoretically, based upon the cost of tuition and living away from home, this situation should be reversed. It should be noted, however, that a part of the lower retention of the junior college and the higher retention of the four-year institutions might be attributable to the transfer of junior college students to four-year institutions following completion of the freshman year.

Retention was figured by percentages for the junior colleges of Kansas by taking the freshman enrollment and the following year sophomore enrollment as given by State Department records for the period studied. The retention was sporadic ranging from approximately 20 per cent to approximately 90 per cent. There were no exceptional schools not exceptional years in this respect which would bear further study. Several junior colleges showed a consistency of retaining approximately half of the freshman class and Arkansas City Junior College had the most consistent average retention.

¹Retention based on class enrollment figures obtained from the report on Kansas college enrollments by Worth A. Fletcher, Registrar, University of Wichita.

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The Coffeyville College of Arts Sciences, and Vocations, which had two years of low retention with slightly over a 30 per cent retention of students in the sophomore year, maintained the highest retention for a single school. Enrollment figures indicated they retained 66 per cent of freshman students for their sophomore year in 1950, 88 per cent in 1951, 35 per cent in 1952, 31 per cent in 1953, 66 per cent in 1954, 63 per cent in 1955, and 61 per cent in 1956. Interviews with Dean Karl Wilson led to the belief that their program geared to the vocational needs of their community and the resulting high morale were largely responsible.

The larger retention for each school did seem to follow years showing a decrease in freshman enrollments. ElDorado Junior College showed the lowest per cent of retention and their retention was consistently lower than the other institutions. The Independence Community College enrollment figures indicated a retention ranging from 41 per cent to 73 per cent. The outstanding year was in 1952. The second high year was in 1954 with a retention of 58 per cent.

Two reasons which were evident in drop-outs following graduation from high school were found to influence students: matrimonial plans and service requirements. However, lack of interest, lack of ability, and lack of understanding of the practicality of education were considered to be the important factors.

It was noted in all interviews with high school seniors,

college freshmen, and sophomores of Independence, Kansas, that the complaint was not so much with the junior college as with the community. The desire for new experience along with the innate desire of this age group to mature suggested a need for a change in student-faculty relationships and the need for influence and inspiration in class presentation from outside the school. Until such a solution is derived, the immediate solution in the mind of youth is to change their educational experience or to enter the work experience world.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the findings of this study and in addition to the conclusions which may be drawn, the following recommendations are made:

1. More public junior colleges should be established.
2. More care and accuracy should be exercised in reporting and recording enrollment figures.
3. A distinct division should be made between college and high school class presentation and assignments. The junior college student should be given a feeling of advancement in course material.
4. Junior colleges should make individual studies of their retention problem and plan a program to remedy the existing situation.
5. A survey of the employment possibilities in the area should be made. Personnel and materials should be

located to enrich and vitalize established courses and fields of study which the survey might bring forward.

6. The field of vocational education should be enlarged and improved.
7. Constant community studies should be made in an endeavor to build and stabilize adult enrollments.
8. More adequate and meaningful guidance programs should be established. Tests should be given to establish not only interests but aptitudes. Counseling, based upon the findings of these tests, should emphasize abilities and not limitations.
9. A program of cooperation between junior and senior colleges should be built. The needs and desires of the individual should be paramount factors in counseling in relation to school choice. Faculty representatives should know and understand the programs offered by both and a cooperative interchange should be established for the benefit of the student.

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Mr. Lonnie N. Wood, Superintendent of Schools, Independence, Kansas

Mr. Karl M. Wilson, Dean, Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences, and Vocations

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AN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE
ENROLLMENTS IN KANSAS 1950-1956

by

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AN ABSTRACT OF A THESIS

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This study of public junior colleges of Kansas is a comparative analysis of enrollments for the period from 1950 to 1956 and the position of the public junior college within the community as determined by interviews with students and citizens of Independence, Kansas.

Four sources of enrollments were available for the study and many variations were found in the figures as given by the fourteen public junior colleges of Kansas. All sources indicated that the public junior colleges of Kansas have shared in the increasing trend of education beyond high school.

The program of the junior college offers education for those interested in vocational training, for those interested in college training, and for those adults who may profit by certain course offerings. The largest group of students on the national level are enrolled in the special and adult group while Kansas serves principally the youth of the State who are interested in college training. Adult enrollments in Kansas were found to experience large yearly variations, especially in relation to individual institutions.

Enrollment increases were found to be quite sporadic. Several institutions experienced periods of constant increases for two to four of the years during the period studied. Eleven institutions recorded a larger enrollment in 1956 than had been reported in 1950.

Size and location were found to have definite bearing on enrollments indicating that there is a need for more institutions throughout the State.

The public junior colleges of Kansas were compared with those of Iowa, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Similarities were noted in regular class enrollments for all states. Iowa and Missouri recorded much larger enrollment of adults than the other two states. Oklahoma varied from the other states by having a program of state control under the direction of state four-year institutions. Kansas lagged behind the other states in number of institutions accredited with the North Central Association.

A study made by F. P. O'Brien in 1935 for Pratt, Kansas, stated that the junior college suffers most from the absence of three essentials: college atmosphere, adequate standards, and robust student morale. While standards have increased constantly, interviews disclosed the community feeling has changed very little in relation to the junior college and these three essentials, indicating the need of establishing the junior college as a unique and individual institution in our educational system.

The growth of the junior college and its position within the community was found to be further hindered by the lack of cooperation between junior colleges and four-year institutions of the state. As a result, the student is deprived of meaningful guidance in relation to choice of school, professional information, and the transfer function of the junior college.

The junior colleges were found to retain approximately 50 per cent of the freshmen for the sophomore year based on total enrollments; however, retention was sporadic, ranging 20 per cent to 90 per cent for individual schools. There

were no exceptional years nor exceptional schools. The Coffeyville College of Arts, Sciences, and Vocations, which offers a large vocational program maintained the highest retention for a single school.

Reasons for students failing to enroll in college included marriage, military requirements, lack of financial backing, lack of interest, lack of ability, and lack of understanding of the practicality of education. The size of the community and the high school-junior college relationship to class material, course presentation, and individual responsibility were found to be factors in student's choice to attend other colleges or universities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the findings of this study and in addition to the conclusions which may be drawn, the following recommendations are made:

1. More public junior colleges should be established.
2. More care and accuracy should be exercised in reporting and recording enrollment figures.
3. A distinct division should be made between college and high school class presentation and assignments. The junior college student should be given a feeling of advancement in course material.
4. Junior colleges should make individual studies of their retention problem and plan a program to remedy the existing situation.

5. A survey of the employment possibilities in the area should be made. Personnel and materials should be located to enrich and vitalize established courses and fields of study which the survey might bring forward.
6. The field of vocational education should be enlarged and improved.
7. Constant community studies should be made in an endeavor to build and stabilize adult enrollments.
8. More adequate and meaningful guidance programs should be established. Tests should be given to establish not only interests but aptitudes. Counseling, based upon the findings of these tests, should emphasize abilities and not limitations.
9. A program of cooperation between junior and senior colleges should be built. The needs and desires of the individual should be paramount factors in counseling in relation to school choice. Faculty representatives should know and understand the programs offered by both and a cooperative interchange should be established for the benefit of the student.